

FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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Welcome to November in San Francisco! Whichever tack the weather takes, there are always programs for the whole family to enjoy at San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. For information on all that your maritime park has to offer, please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, and the website of the park's cooperating San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, at <http://www.maritime.org>.

Fathom This! is a monthly e-letter from the park. To receive it, or to cancel, please contact the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Your name and email address is never sold or loaned. Feel free to forward Fathom This! and enter it, in whole or in part, into blogs. Have a great November, and come visit America's floating national park! Hyde Street Pier and the Visitor Center are open daily, 9:30am-5:00pm. Last entry to pier, 4:30pm. Admission to board the fleet of historic vessels berthed at Hyde Street Pier: Adults, \$5.

Ages 15 and under, free. Free with national park passes. Tickets are good for seven days from date of purchase. The fee booth is located halfway up Hyde Street Pier.

VETERANS DAY

To honor our nation's military men and women, all entrance fees in national parks are being waived on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11, for military personnel with current military I.D., veterans, and their families. To board the historic ships, please pick up boarding passes at the fee booth on Hyde Street Pier.

THE JOHNSON GIRLS SEA MUSIC CONCERT

Saturday, November 14, 8:00pm, aboard Balclutha. Tickets: \$14 general, \$12 San Francisco Maritime National Park Association and San Francisco Maritime Library Friends members: To purchase tickets: Online at <http://www.maritime.org>, by phone at 415-561-6662, ext. 33, or in person at The Maritime Store, 2950 Hyde Street (entrance to Hyde Street Pier). Store open 9:30am-5:30pm daily. For purchases at the door, ticket office opens 6:30pm on concert night (pier entrance).

The Johnson Girls - Deirdre Murtha, Alison Kelley, Joy Bennett, and Bonnie Milner - captivated by traditional seafaring songs at different times in their lives, came together in 1997 following the Mystic Seaport Sea Music Festival to burst through the barrier of this previously male dominated genre. Since then, they have taken the sea music world by storm with their powerhouse renditions of chanteys, and their tender performances of seafaring ballads. They have performed at festivals and concert halls across the United States, in Canada, England, Wales, the Netherlands, and Portugal. Pete Seeger said of them: "You are first rate! Where have you been?" Experience their compelling singing in this intimate, unique waterfront setting.

KLEBINGAT LECTURE SERIES - A FLEET TO BE FORGOTTEN: THE WOODEN FREIGHTERS OF WORLD WAR ONE

Saturday, November 14, 6:00pm, in the Maritime Library, Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Donation: \$5 general, \$4 Maritime Library Friends and San Francisco Maritime National Park Association members. Information and reservations: 415-561-7040.

Maritime historian Louis Hough will discuss his new book on the little-known wooden freighters of World War One. They were the Liberty Ships of their day, meant to be built quickly to fill the need for vital goods to be transported to Europe, but in the end were massively overproduced, and forgotten by a government embarrassed by its "terrible waste of timber, toil, and treasure."

THE LIBRARY IS OPEN - MARITIME LIBRARY HOURS

Located at Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Open 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am-5pm. Also by appointment, M-F afternoons. Immediate appointments usually available. Information and appointments: 415-561-7030, or ring doorbell.

The park's public research library houses one of the most extensive collection of maritime books, photographs, periodicals and videos on the West Coast. You are invited to research your maritime history in a quiet, reflective setting near the city's waterfront.

NEW IN THE MARITIME LIBRARY

Among the library's newly-acquired books are:

Robin Fisher, *Vancouver's Voyage Charting the Pacific Northwest*. This book is beautifully illustrated with images old and new; many of them by the author.

Tom Hartman, *The Guinness Book of Ships and Shipping: Facts and Feats*. This is the long and short, old and new of transportation. This volume brings the Guinness style to the oceans and the vessels that sail on or under it.

NEW IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Open daily by appointment. 415-561-7040.

The Harold D. Huycke correspondence (HDC 1554) collection consists of letters written by, and to, Harold Huycke. These letters are a record of Huycke's research into maritime history.

NEW IN THE MARITIME STORE

2905 Hyde Street, at the entrance to Hyde Street Pier. Open daily 9:30am-5:30pm. 415-775-2665.

The Maritime Store has recently added an American made line of reproduction scrimshaw. London Lines scrimshaw is hand-cast in resin, hand-inked, antiqued and finished by hand. Scrimshaw was the whalers art of engraving on whale bone, an art that helped break the boredom of long voyages. Original museum pieces date from the 1800s, but the art may go as far back as whaling history itself. \$25 - \$150.

VOLUNTEERS ABOARD EPPLETON HALL

The volunteer program aboard this 1914 English-built paddlewheel tug has been ongoing since May. Our crew is small, but they've played an invaluable role in helping prepare the boat for the rainy season. Volunteers have moved all the ballast and misc. items out of the aft compartment, stripped the after scuttle varnish, abated rust on the after skylight and begun on the fidley, and these volunteers have been working to re-pitch the *Balclutha* main deck as well. We are always looking for more people interested in getting the "Eppie" to the stabilization stage (leaks and surfaces sealed). There are opportunities to learn some basic skills, and work alongside a great bunch of people! Any interested folks are invited to contact both Erin Nhaminerva (Deckhand) at erin_nhaminerva@nps.gov, and Terry Dorman (Volunteer Coordinator) at terry_dorman@nps.gov, or call the volunteer office at 415-556-1613.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov> The National Park Service.

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org> Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Library, the park library's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.hydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park Living History Program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://corsair-viking.org> The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.

This publication is strictly for informational purposes and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Department of Interior, the National Park Service, or the Park.